THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The State has been provided special relief by reducing the annual rate of interest on the loans for earthquake rehabilitation work from 10.5% to 9.5% with effect from 27.5.2003 in respect of the undisbursed amounts. The relief provided to Gujarat extends to all the states for the existing and future disaster rehabilitation programmes with assistance from the World Bank or the Asian Development Bank.

(c) No, Sir.

Amendment to Kisan Credit Card Scheme

†2148. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Kisan Credit Cards issued to the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Assam and North Eastern States till 30th June, 2004, State-wise,

(b) whether Reserve Bank of India has made some recommendations for amending the said scheme, and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S S PALANIMANICKAM). (a) The State-wise cumulative number of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) issued in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Assam and North-Eastern States, as reported by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), as on 30th June 2004 is given below:

Sl No.	Name of the State	Cumulative No of Cards Issued by banks
1	2	3
1	Madhya Pradesh	2,711,060
2.	Rajasthan	2,653,951
3	Orissa	2,375,598
4.	Assam	115,957
5	Arunachal Pradesh	6,805
6.	Meghalaya	14,153

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

1	2	3
7.	Mizoram	3,971
8.	Manipur	6,270
9.	Nagaland	3,960
10.	Tripura	17,335

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Credit to agriculture sector

2149. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ratio of disbursal of credit to agriculture sector is too low in comparison to other sectors;

(b) if so, the details of credit disbursement in various sectors by public sector banks for the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether there are RBI guidelines with regard to loan disbursements by banks;

(d) whether the public sector banks have been found violating the guidelines in relation to the credit disbursements to agriculture sector, particularly in Kerala; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The outstanding advances to the various sectors, within the priority sector, by public sector banks as on the last Friday of March 2002, 2003 and 2004 are as under:

(Amount in Rs. Crores)

Sectors	March 2002	March 2003	March 2004
Total advances	396954	477899	559158
Total priority	171185	203095	245501
sector advances	(43.1%)	(42.5%)	(43.9%)
Total advances to	63082	73507	86127
agriculture	(15.9%)	(15.3%)	(15.4%)
SSI advance	49743	52988	58277
	(12.5%)	(11.1%)	(10.4%)
Advances to	28975	32304	41589
weaker sections	(7 3%)	(6.8%)	(7.4%)